



NGC News

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NGC Coin Details combines the best of NGC's research suite into one mobile app.

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Highlight Stack's Bowers ANA Sale

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From the NGC Archives: 1853 Seated Liberty Half Dime, Without Arrows

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World Coins: Panama 1904 2-1/2 Centesimos

The Panama 1904 2-1/2 Centesimos weighed in at 1.25 grams and measured a tiny 10 millimeters.

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New Book: Encyclopedia of the Commemorative Coins of the United States

With more than 668 full-color photographs, this is the most thorough volume ever compiled on US commemorative coinage.

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Heritage US Coins Philadelphia Signature Auction

NGC highlights include an 1887 \$20 PR 67+ Cameo NGC that sold for \$411,250.

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Stack's Bowers and Ponterio to Offer More Than 2,300 Lots at the August 2012 Hong Kong Auction

Notable highlights include a Gem Tai Ching Pattern Dollar, denominated "\$1" in NGC MS 65, and an extremely rare Honan Pattern 20 Cash struck in copper.

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Heritage Long Beach World Coin Auction Now Open; Previews in Philadelphia

The Long Beach Signature Auction will have more than 7,500 lots from around the world.

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Stack's Bowers Galleries New York Grading Event with NGC

Special NGC grading event will be held at Stack's Bowers Galleries New York City offices September 12-14, 2012. Get FREE NGC grading when you consign to Stack's Bowers Baltimore or N.Y.I.N.C. auctions.

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2012 American Eagle One Ounce Platinum Proof Coin

The US Mint releases the American Eagle Platinum Bullion Coins.

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NGC Releases First Mobile App: NGC Coin Details

Posted on 8/8/2012

NGC Coin Details combines the best of NGC's research suite into one mobile app.

Numismatic Guaranty Corporation (NGC®), the world's largest third-party coin grading company, has released its first mobile phone application. [NGC Coin Details](#) is the most comprehensive app available to coin enthusiasts, offering verification of NGC-certified coins with additional details pulled from key tools in the NGC Research suite.



App users start by scanning the barcode on any NGC US, world or ancient coin label or typing in its certification number. For US coins, users can view values from the [NGC US Coin Price Guide](#), [VarietyPlus®](#) attribution listings, coin specifications and images, detailed descriptions and analysis, and upcoming auction data. The app stores more than 100 coins in its search history.

“We created NGC Coin Details so collectors and dealers can easily access important information like values and analysis wherever they go,” said Mark Salzberg, chairman of NGC. “The app helps people make more informed buying and selling decisions, which, in turn, helps the hobby.”

NGC Coin Details is available for free in the App Store and Google Play. Coin enthusiasts can go to www.NGCcoin.com/CoinDetails to learn more.

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From the Grading Room: Finest NGC-Certified (1860) J-264 Pattern Cent

Posted on 8/14/2012

A rare pattern cent, catalogued as J-264, was recently certified by NGC.

In the standard reference to US Pattern Coins, often simply referred to as the "Judd Book" for its author Dr. J. Hewitt Judd, all coins are assigned a rarity rating. Those of the highest rarity are designated as "unique" or "Rarity-8," meaning two or three are known. Regardless of the number of patterns coins NGC graders have seen, they are always thrilled to encounter any coin at the top end of the rarity scale. Graders recently had such an experience when a pattern cent, catalogued as J-264, was submitted for certification.



This pattern is sometimes referred to as the intaglio cent. It is actually struck from hubs, and therefore its design is incuse and reversed. The obverse shows a hub-impression of an Indian Head Cent, rounded bust style of 1860 to 1864, but it is without date. The reverse shows a wreath surrounding ONE CENT, as appeared on the 1859 Indian Cent, but again it is incuse and reversed. The pattern was struck on a standard copper-nickel cent blank.

Not only is its appearance unusual, but its origin is also an enigma. The exact reason that these patterns were made is not known. Many speculate that they are the product of experiments conducted by Dr. James T. Barclay at the US Mint to

find ways to prevent counterfeiting of US coinage. Today, just three examples are known. This coin last traded publicly at a Doyle Galleries sale in 1983. It is illustrated in the Judd reference book.

This example of J-264 is the lone piece certified by NGC and grades PF 66.



(1860) J-264 1C NGC PF-66
[click image to enlarge](#)

From the Grading Room is an occasional feature of the [NGC E-mail Newsletter](#) in which we highlight some of the more unusual or seldom seen items submitted for certification. [Click to explore](#) other special finds.

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NGC Recognizes Chinese 1993 Frosted Silver 10 Yuan Panda Coins

Posted on 7/26/2012

The 1993 Large and Small Date frosted coins are added to the VarietyPlus® program.

NGC now recognizes frosted varieties of the 1993 Large and Small Date Silver 10 Yuan Panda coins. Both of these varieties are heavily frosted across the devices, while their regular counterparts show a much lighter finish. The variety will be attributed automatically at no additional charge. It is not necessary to select VarietyPlus® on the NGC submission form.

The frosted variant will be labeled "Panda - Frosted Large Date" or "Panda - Frosted Small Date." For additional information, check out the [China section](#) of NGC's VarietyPlus attribution guide.

When compared side-by-side with the non-Frosted variants, the difference is dramatic.



Frosted



Regular



Frosted



Regular

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NGC Accepting Submissions at Long Beach

Posted on 8/15/2012

NGC will be accepting submissions for all regular service levels at Long Beach.

NGC will be accepting regular submissions for all service levels* at the [Long Beach Expo](#), in Long Beach, CA on Thursday, September 6 to Saturday, September 8, 2012. All submissions will be sent to our office in Sarasota, FL. Services include World Services, Ancient Coin Services, Early Bird, Economy, Bulk, Special Designations, PHOTO PROOF® and more. Check with show representatives for details. Cut-off time for all submissions will be 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 8. NGC will be at booth 488.

Note:

- Due to the special handling required, NGC does not accept submissions of the following coins at this show for on-site grading or regular service submissions to be returned to the NGC offices: Coins over 3.5" (90 mm) in diameter and .39" (10 mm) in depth, San Francisco 2-coin Proof set, Coin & Currency set, 25th Anniversary Eagles, 20th Anniversary Eagles, Early Releases, American Liberty Series, 10th Anniversary Platinum Sets. These submissions must be sent directly to Sarasota, FL, by the submitter.
- *Does not include 5-ounce coins.

Questions should be directed to NGC customer service at service@NGCcoin.com or 1-800-NGC-COIN (642-2646).

Visit our table for answers to any questions about the services offered by NGC. Please remember that NGC does not provide opinions or free evaluations of coins at trade shows.

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Award for David W. Lange

Posted on 8/14/2012

NGC's Research Director receives Numismatic Literary Guild Award at the ANA's World's Fair of Money.

David W. Lange, NGC Research Director, received a Numismatic Literary Guild Award for Best Column - Large Club Publications. His monthly article "USA Coin Album," which appears in *The Numismatist*, examines US coins of different mints and eras, their legends, date logotypes and even their beaded borders. The column is also archived on NGC's website: [USA Coin Album](#).

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NGC Ancients: Shekels and Half-Shekels of Tyre - A Brief Survey

Posted on 8/14/2012

This month, NGC Ancients examines the silver Shekels and Half-Shekels of Tyre, some of the most recognizable coins of the ancient world.

Though shekels were struck during the fifth and fourth centuries B.C. by several rulers of Tyre, a city of ancient Phoenicia, the most important type was struck for almost two centuries, between c.126/5 BC and c.AD 65/66. This coin features on the obverse a portrait of Melkart, the Punic equivalent of the Greek hero Heracles (Hercules). Its reverse shows an eagle with a palm branch over its shoulder, standing on the prow of a ship. Additionally, in the reverse field there are various control symbols and a date represented by one or more Greek letters.



The main design did not change over the years, though there is much variety in the form of dates and monograms. To demonstrate the overall consistency of the design, we can compare a shekel from one of the earliest years of issue (civic year 6, 121/0 BC) with one of the last years of issue (civic year 177, AD 51/2). Though separated by more than one hundred and seventy years, they are instantly recognizable as being of the same series of coinage.

Shekels of Tyre are among the most frequent submissions to NGC Ancients. Recently we received a noteworthy pair issued in consecutive years (civic years 173 and 174) which share an unexpected trait: they were struck from the same obverse die. Understandably, the obverse of the year 174 coin is in slightly later

state, with the major distinguishing characteristic being the large flaw across the cheek of Melkart.



Shekels of Tyre fulfilled an important need in many parts of the ancient world: that of a large denomination coinage in high-purity silver. In ancient Jerusalem, a prominent city of the ancient world, there was a specific need for coins of good silver. The only city nearby which consistently produced such coins was Tyre, a coastal city famous for the purple dye it extracted from within the murex shell. As a hub of commerce, Tyre produced large quantities of coins, many of which found their way to Jerusalem.



In addition to the shekel, Tyre also struck half-shekels, which may have been issued principally to pay the annual tax at the Temple in Jerusalem. While half the size of the shekel, this coin retains the same design elements and dating system as its larger counterpart. This coin shown here is typical of the series as a whole. It features the Melkart/eagle combination, and the Greek letters (“AN”) above the club in the left reverse field, indicating it was struck during civic year 51, which equates to 76/5 BC.

With such a long-running series, it is only natural that some dates within the series would take on an added significance for collectors of ancients. For example, there is the so-called “millennium shekel,” which was struck in civic year 126, or 1 BC/AD 1. This rare date, an example of which is shown here, commands a premium over any common date shekel of Tyre.



The most popular date in the series, however, is the issue of civic year 159, or AD 33/4. Following traditional chronologies, this is the year in which Jesus was crucified by the Procurator Pontius Pilate. An example is illustrated here. Like the millennium shekel, this piece commands a substantial premium.

The shekel of Tyre also has another connection with Biblical history. According to many historians, the “thirty pieces of silver” that Judas is said to have received for betraying Jesus, were in the form of shekels of Tyre.

With the exception of the dates discussed above, shekels and half-shekels of Tyre are relatively available in the marketplace, and a pleasing, reasonably priced example may be located without too much difficulty.

Most images courtesy of Classical Numismatic Group.

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United States

Counterfeit Detection: Australia 2012 Year of the Dragon Silver Dollar

Posted on 8/14/2012

The popularity of lunar coins has grown of late, making the coins an excellent target for counterfeiters.

Lunar coins have become very popular in recent years with coins struck annually to commemorate the Chinese Zodiac, a calendar that assigns a different animal to each year in a 12-year cycle. The first government-issued lunar coin was the Hong Kong 1976 Year of the Dragon \$1,000 gold piece, and since that time a number of other countries have introduced lunar coin series.

Chinese and Australian lunar coins are particularly popular, and the 2012 year of the dragon coins were widely anticipated. NGC has graded thousands of these coins, issued in a number of sizes and denominations. Almost immediately, however, we began to receive counterfeits.



Counterfeit Australia 2012 Year of the Dragon Silver Dollar
Click images to enlarge.

One example is this 2012 Australian Year of the Dragon dollar. Although genuine examples are not rare or particularly valuable, this issue has still been targeted by counterfeiters. The major issue with this fake is the lack of detail in the design elements. In addition, the letters around the portrait of Queen Elizabeth II are malformed and have a pimpled appearance. The overall appearance differs significantly from the sharply struck genuine examples.

These fakes are not particularly deceptive, but a one ounce 2012 silver dollar is not something that would normally set off a red flag or require close inspection. Although someone familiar with the legitimate coins would not be fooled, this is a coin that could easily be overlooked.

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USA Coin Album: The San Francisco Mint Coinage of 1923, Part Three

Posted on 8/14/2012

A post-war recession hovered over the opening years of the 1920s, and the many millions of coins produced during 1916-20 left large numbers idle in Treasury vaults for some time.

No half dollars of the regular type were coined from the latter half of 1921 through most of 1923. Finally, in September of 1923, the existing stock of these coins had fallen to the point where production resumed at San Francisco alone. Some 630,000 Walking Liberty halves were minted that month, followed by 1,380,000 in October and a final striking of 168,000 coins in November. The resulting total of 2,178,000 half dollars proved sufficient to meet the needs of commerce for the next several years, and no half dollars were struck for circulation again until 1927.



The 1923-S Walking Liberty half dollar is a plentiful issue in worn condition. At the present price of silver it commands no significant premium in grades less than Fine-12. In contrast, examples grading VF-20 through AU-58 are fairly challenging to find, and this is especially true of uncleaned, problem-free pieces. Like most San Francisco Mint issues of the 1920s, the typical specimen is poorly struck. The central features of Liberty and the eagle are almost always incomplete, and even the first two numerals of the date can be a bit shallow at their tops where they meet the exergue line. Not long ago a quite boldly struck example came across my desk at NGC, and this certainly caught my attention. Sadly, however, it had been improperly cleaned and had to be graded non-numerically. That coin nevertheless offered some hope of finding another with bold details and no such

restrictions on grade.

The San Francisco Mint likewise coined 1923's only other half dollar coinage. It was authorized to recognize the centennial of the Monroe Doctrine and sold during a June exposition sponsored by the motion picture industry in Los Angeles. Production occurred just in time for this event, with 172,000 coins struck during May and the remaining 102,000 in June. Sculpted in low relief by Chester Beach, this coin featured jugate busts of John Adams and James Monroe on its obverse, paired with a reverse showing a personification of the Western Hemisphere in the form of two contorted female models. The coin's shallow dies failed to produce a pleasing coin, and the San Francisco Mint's typical poor quality work of the time only aggravated this problem. A significant percentage of this coin's mintage did not sell to numismatists and exposition attendees at the specified premium. Rather than return the balance of these coins to the mint for melting, banks simply dispensed them at face value in the normal course of business. Worn examples are thus rather common, while gem mint state coins are very scarce. Fortunately, uncirculated coins of so-so quality are plentiful enough for any budget.

The largest production of coins at the San Francisco Mint in 1923 was in the form of Peace silver dollars. These coins were neither needed nor wanted in most of the nation, but the terms of the 1918 Pittman Act had to be met. It mandated that the many millions of silver dollars melted in 1918-19 be replaced with new coins made from domestically mined silver as soon as possible. Production of the replacement pieces peaked in 1922 but was still going strong the following year. It was in 1923 that the Treasury actually completed its purchase of Pittman silver, yet coining continued another five years before this bullion was exhausted. The San Francisco Mint contributed 19,020,000 coins to the cause in 1923, carefully spacing this production over many months to keep workers busy during an otherwise slow year.

1923-S Peace dollars are plentiful in any grade short of MS-65, as so many of these coins remained idle in vaults until becoming popular with collectors in the 1950s and '60s. The typical example is poorly struck from worn dies, with weak central details that contribute to their low certified grades. Many coins also show mounding at their peripheries, as the wearing dies began to sink and form a circular berm just inside their rims. On the plus side, however, most 1923-S dollars that have not been improperly cleaned display bright and pleasing luster that is somewhat satiny in texture.

No gold coins were struck at San Francisco in 1923, but this seems to have been a statistical anomaly. Millions of S-Mint double eagles were coined in both 1922 and 1924, and the San Francisco Mint certainly had additional capacity to produce

more coins in 1923. It’s likely that 1923-S dies for the double eagle were shipped to San Francisco but ultimately not used. These would have been routinely destroyed at the end of the calendar year.

The San Francisco Mint coinage of 1923 includes only seven coins in total and makes for an interesting collection in itself. With the exception of the quarter dollar, all of these are fairly plentiful in circulated condition. The real challenge will be to find well struck examples in grades F-12 or better that have natural and attractive surfaces. Such a display would be a real eye-catcher.

David W. Lange's column, “USA Coin Album,” appears monthly in the Numismatist, the official publication of the [American Numismatic Association](#).

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United States

NumisMedia Market Report: Battle Born CC Collection to Highlight Stack’s Bowers ANA Sale

Posted on 8/14/2012

There have been many legendary auctions over the past 40 years, but few have had the influence that the upcoming ANA Stack’s Bowers Galleries Auction will have on the price structure of Carson City coins.

The acquisition of many of the coins out of the Battle Born Collection will be akin to buying an 1804 Dollar, at least very close. It almost does not matter whether the coin is the highest grade for the date, the importance will be that it is part of the pedigreed Battle Born Collection. Granted, there are at least 50 finest known or tied for finest known coins in this fantastic sale, but the allure goes far beyond rarity. Carson City coins represent the history of how the West was developed in the mid to late 1800’s. This is the type of sale that will attract all types of collectors, not just numismatists.

Rusty Goe, the preeminent authority on Carson City coins, assembled the collection for an anonymous collector. This is only the second time in history that all 111 Carson City coins, both Gold and Silver, have appeared in a single collection. The first time was from the collection of the legendary Louis E. Eliasberg Sr. Nonetheless, the Battle Born Collection is the finest of the two which include 20 finest known coins and 30 coins that are tied for the finest known. This will surely create some price records for many of these special coins. The following is a list of some of the more formidable coins in this sale along with the current FMV where available. In some cases, a current price is not available (N/A) for specific grades due to a lack of legitimate trading information.

Date/Denomination	Grade	Current FMV
1871 CC Seated Dime	MS63	\$96,880

1873 CC Seated Dime No Arrows	MS65	\$1,125,000
1873 CC Seated Dime w/Arrows	MS65	\$237,500
1876 CC Twenty Cent	MS64	\$218,750
1871 CC Seated Quarter	MS65	N/A
1873 CC Seated Quarter No Arrows	MS64	N/A
1870 CC Seated Half Dollar	MS62	\$168,750
1871 CC Seated Half Dollar	MS64	\$98,130
1870 CC Seated Dollar	MS64	\$81,250
1871 CC Seated Dollar	MS61	\$131,250
1878 CC Trade Dollar	MS64	\$75,000
1870 CC \$5 Gold	MS61	N/A
1871 CC \$5 Gold	MS63	\$90,350
1876 CC \$5 Gold	MS66	N/A
1870 CC \$10 Gold	AU55	\$115,050

As you can see there are six coins listed above without an FMV. There are many others in this sale also without a current FMV. Many of these coins are so rare that they have not traded in the last several decades. The populations for the most part are just one at NGC or PCGS with none higher. The 1870 CC \$5 Gold in MS61 is one of only three coins certified in Mint State. NGC has certified one coin in MS62. The sale of this MS61 could attract the MS62 into the market. The 1871 CC \$20 Gold in MS64 is an NGC and the only one certified at either service in this grade. There are a total of only five other Mint State coins certified in MS60 and MS61, all by NGC. When you consider that the original mintage of this coin was only 17,387 and most were either circulated or melted, it is almost unthinkable that there could be one grading any higher. The current FMV is a result of a very old sale and dealers expect it to command lots of attention.

As for the 1873 CC Seated Dime No Arrows in MS65, while many of the other coins are unique by grade, this coin is simply unique. It is the only known survivor of an original mintage of 12,400 coins minted. The long history behind it took many turns in the road. From its initial public sale in 1878 until now, much of the history is hearsay with several different owners that can only be speculated upon. Rusty Goe has documented much of the pedigree for this coin and recent fact shows that it came out of the Louis E Eliasberg Sr. Collection and will soon be housed in another great collection. The FMV of \$1,125,000 for this coin is well over ten years old and any serious collector of Carson City coins will certainly have to pay a very strong price if they want to add it to their collection.

Normally we don't get too excited about the prices realized from an auction, but this sale will provide us with many updates and some new prices for these Carson City coins. In addition, some of these coins are likely to set records that will astound the numismatic community.

This article is a guest article written by:



The thoughts and opinions in the piece are those of their author and are not necessarily the thoughts of the Certified Collectibles Group.

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United States

From the NGC Archives: 1853 Seated Liberty Half Dime, Without Arrows

Posted on 8/14/2012

The rising value of silver in relation to gold after 1848 soon made US silver coins worth more as bullion than as money, quickly driving them from circulation.

In 1853 Congress reduced the weight of the half dime and the other fractional silver coins, noting this change with arrowheads placed at either side of the date.



When the new edition was released, there were no collectors of modern issues to take notice. Those examples that have survived in mint state did so by mere chance. While not a rare issue, the 1853 Philadelphia Mint half dime with arrows is seldom found in top condition. Sharply struck from dies that clashed, an inverted date is actually readable on the reverse of this fabulous specimen. Its bright luster and pristine surfaces are further enhanced by a gentle wash of toning which features attractive shades of lavender and gold.

Are you interested in learning more about these coins? Click [here](#) to visit the NGC Coin Explorer and read on.

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World Coins: Panama 1904 2-1/2 Centesimos

Posted on 8/14/2012

The Panama 1904 2-1/2 Centesimos weighed in at 1.25 grams and measured a tiny 10 millimeters.

What is the smallest coin ever struck by the United States government? While the United States has produced coins for over 40 countries, the smallest to date is the Panama 1904 2-1/2 Centesimos. Measuring a small 10 millimeters it is commonly called the “Panama Pill.”



The roots of such a small coin date back to the Spanish American monetary system. Panama, situated next to Colombia, was using their currency as the means of exchange. The Colombian currency got its roots from the Spanish American Reales and Escudos. This system used throughout the Americas (including the US), was based on the 8 Reales coin that circulated as the equivalent to the dollar for some time. The 8 Reales would be broken down to 2 Reales and would circulate as a quarter or 2 bits. Based on this 1 bit or real would be the equivalent of 12-1/2 cents. Because of this old system, Panama coinage made in the United States needed to correspond to denominations used in

trading, so 2-1/2 Centesimos were produced and, when paired with the 10 Centavos coin, equaled 12-1/2 Centesimos or 1 Real. This standard was also in place in neighboring Colombia.



Panama 1904 2 1/2 Centesimos Next
To 1855 Silver Three-Cent (Trime)

In 1904, the US acquired the Panama Canal project from a failed French effort. As a result, the US produced coinage for use in Panama. The coinage of 1904 was silver and based on the Centimo which included 2-1/2, 5, 10, 25, and 50 Centesimos coins. The coins were produced using the US standard of .900 fine silver, and featured the portrait of Vasco Nunes de Balboa on the obverse and the Panamanian coat of arms on the reverse. The 2-1/2 Centesimos weighed in at 1.25 grams and measured a tiny 10 millimeters, making it the smallest coin produced by the US and the smallest government authorized coin in circulation in the Americas. Because of its tiny size, it was often comically referred to as a pill or Panama Pill. In 1907, the currency was revised and the 2-1/2 Centesimos were reintroduced in copper-nickel, with a diameter of 21 millimeters.



With a mintage of only 400,000 and a survival rate likely lessened by its small size, Panama pill is a very collectable coin today. The desirability stems from the small size of the piece as a curiosity. Between 1975 and 1985, 2-1/2 Centesimos (10 millimeter) coins were produced as part of collector sets to capitalize on the popularity of the original 1904 Panama Pill, which gives testament to the appeal of the original coin.

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United States

New Book: Encyclopedia of the Commemorative Coins of the United States

Posted on 8/14/2012

With more than 668 full-color photographs, this is the most thorough volume ever compiled on US commemorative coinage.

Anthony J. Swiatek won two significant numismatic literary awards at the August 2012 American Numismatic Association convention in Philadelphia, PA for his book, *Encyclopedia of the Commemorative Coins of the United States*. At the Professional Numismatists Guild (PNG) banquet he was given the PNG's Robert Friedberg Award, presented to an author in recognition for an outstanding book or other piece of literature. Several nights later he received the Numismatic Literary Guild's Book of the Year award, that organization's most prestigious literary award.

A dealer from Saratoga Springs, NY, Swiatek is a recognized authority on classic (1892-1954) silver and gold commemorative coins. The book includes the history of each coin and a detailed analysis including the population estimates and current values. Additional topics covered include counterfeit and doctored coins and mint errors. In his acceptance speech for the Robert Friedberg Award, Swiatek thanked Mark Salzberg, chairman of NGC, for his invaluable help over the years towards completing the book.

"The Encyclopedia of the Commemorative Coins of the United States is an indispensable numismatic reference on US commemorative coinage," said Mark Salzberg. "I congratulate Anthony not only on writing this important book but also for receiving these two awards," he added.

Encyclopedia of the Commemorative Coins of the United States is published by KWS Publishers and is currently available for purchase on www.kwspub.com.

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United States



Heritage US Coins Philadelphia Signature Auction

Posted on 8/14/2012

NGC highlights include an 1887 \$20 PR 67+ Cameo NGC that sold for \$411,250.

[DALLAS, TX] – Heritage's [US Coins Signature Auction](#), was held in Philadelphia August 2-5. More than \$21 million in rare coins sold in August 3rd's Platinum Night. Overall, this auction brought its happy consignors over \$27.5 million, with an additional \$1 million in sales from our currency auction held on August 3. All prices include 17.5% Buyer's Premium.

Just a few of the NGC highlights of this auction included:

- [1887 \\$20](#)  
[PR67+ ★](#)
[Cameo NGC](#). Sold for: \$411,250.
- [1864 \\$20 PR65 ★ Ultra Cameo NGC](#). Sold for: \$352,500.
- [1792 One Cent, Judd-1, High R.6, VF30 NGC](#). Sold for: \$305,500.
- [1795 \\$10 9 Leaves MS61 NGC. BD-3, High R.6](#). Sold for: \$282,000.
- [1845 \\$2 1/2 PR67 Ultra Cameo NGC](#). Sold for: \$258,500.
- [1796 \\$2 1/2 No Stars MS63 NGC](#). Sold for: \$252,625.

Our [Long Beach World and Ancient Coin auction](#), [Long Beach World Paper Money auction](#), and [Shoshana Collection auction](#) are already open for bidding at [HA.com](#). The [Long Beach US Coin Auction](#) will open very soon for bidding at [HA.com/Coins](#).

The thoughts and opinions in the piece are those of their author and are not necessarily the thoughts of the Certified Collectibles Group.

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Stack's Bowers and Ponterio to Offer More Than 2,300 Lots at the August 2012 Hong Kong Auction

Posted on 8/14/2012

Notable highlights include a Gem Tai Ching Pattern Dollar, denominated "\$1" in NGC MS 65, and an extremely rare Honan Pattern 20 Cash struck in copper.

[Irvine, Calif.] – Stack's Bowers and Ponterio is set to conduct the August 2012 Hong Kong sale from August 19 through August 22 at the Mira Hong Kong in Kowloon. Following the successful sale in April that realized over USD \$10.5 million, this sale is poised to rise to equally impressive heights. More than 2,300 lots of Chinese and Asian coins and banknotes will be presented over four days, in addition to an internet-only session containing nearly 600 lots that will close on August 23.

Rarities abound in this sale and feature many seldom offered patterns from China, Korea and Thailand, all of which appear in excellent states of preservation. Notable highlights include a Gem Tai Ching Pattern Dollar Denominated "\$1" in NGC MS-65, and an extremely rare Honan Pattern 20 Cash struck in copper, one of just a few pieces known to exist, graded AU-55 BN by NGC.

In addition to standard coinage, the Hong Kong sale features a large and highly diverse section of Sycee from throughout China, which includes several museum quality 50 Tael ingots as well as rare varieties of ingots native to Yunnan Province. Other Asian rarities boast an 1889-A French Indo-China Piastre graded NGC PF-66, a coin that is sure to be a significant highlight of the foreign coins session. The modern coin and paper money sessions are chock full of low mintage rarities and finest known pieces, like the Serial #1 2004 10,000 Yuan from the Panda Series graded PROOF-67 ULTRA CAMEO by NGC.

“The Chinese market has certainly matured over the last three years, but the enthusiasm remains very strong,” said Stack’s Bowers and Ponterio executive vice president Rick Ponterio. “We are seeing buyers becoming more discerning than in the past which only raises the interest and competition for the true rarities. Every session of this auction contains great pieces, and I am excited to see how high they will climb when the bidding really gets going.”

Additional Highlights of the Stack’s Bowers and Ponterio August 2012 Sale include:

- Lot 50182, CHINA. Pattern Dollar, Year 12 (1923). Tientsin Mint. NGC MS-65.
- Lot 50541, THAILAND. Tamlung (4 Baht), ND (1864). NGC AU-55.
- Lot 51244, CHINA. Hunan. Dollar, Year 11 (1922). NGC MS-66.
- Lot 51297, CHINA. Kiangnan. 7 Mace 2 Candareens (Dollar), ND (ca. 1897). NGC MS-62.
- Lot 51435, CHINA. Manchurian Provinces. 3 Mace 6 Candareens (50 Cents), Year 33 (1907). NGC MS-64.
- Lot 52260, CHINA. 10,000 Yuan, 2004. Panda Series. NGC PROOF-67 ULTRA CAMEO.
- Lot 52479, CHINA. Five Piece Gold Proof Set, 1992. Inventions & Discoveries Series. NGC PROOF-69 ULTRA CAMEO.

Stack’s Bowers and Ponterio is currently accepting consignments for their next sale in Hong Kong, which will take place in April 2013, as well as for the Official Auction of the November 2012 Whitman Coin and Collectibles Baltimore Expo and the January 2013 N.Y.I.N.C. auction. All lot descriptions and images in the August 2012 Hong Kong Auction can be viewed online at the Stack’s Bowers and Ponterio website, www.stacksbowers.com. Pre-auction bids will be accepted at www.stacksbowers.com; by e-mail at auction@stacksbowers.com; by phone at 949.253.0916; by fax at 949.253.4091; and by postal mail addressed to Stack’s Bowers and Ponterio, Hong Kong August 2012, 1063 McGaw Avenue, Suite 100, Irvine, CA, 92614. Interested bidders are also encouraged to view lots onsite in Hong Kong and bid in-person at the live auction, or live online through the Stack’s Bowers Galleries website. A complete auction and lot viewing schedule is available at www.stacksbowers.com or by calling 949.253.0916.

About Stack’s Bowers and Ponterio

Stack’s Bowers and Ponterio is the world and ancients auction division of Stack’s Bowers Galleries, a division of Fortune 500 Company Spectrum Group International. It was founded in 1982 as Ponterio & Associates by Richard Ponterio, renowned specialist in world and ancient numismatics, who is now

executive vice president of Stack’s Bowers Galleries. Past auctions have included such notable coin collections as the Wa She Wong Collection, the John S. Davenport Collection, the Witte Museum Collection, the Amat Collection, the Joe Lasser Collection, and the James Hunnicut Collection. Distinguished paper money collections include the East Bay Collection of International Bank Notes, and the Eduard Kann Chinese Bank Note Collection, along with treasure collections from the shipwrecks “Nicobar,” “Rooswijk,” and “Capitana.”

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Heritage Long Beach World Coin Auction Now Open; Previews in Philadelphia

Posted on 8/14/2012

The Long Beach Signature Auction will have more than 7,500 lots from around the world.

We are pleased to present our September Long Beach Signature Auction for World and Ancient Coins. This official auction of the Long Beach Coin Expo is scheduled for September 6-11 in Long Beach and worldwide via HA.com/Coins.

Our World and Ancient Coin auction, as has become tradition, features a wonderful selection of Latin American coins from Argentina to Mexico, and from Peru to Brazil. There are three golden "Sunface" 8 Escudos going under the hammer ([including an MS 63!](#)). Over 250 lots from Brazil are offered, including an amazing group of silver 640 Reis (from the Santana Collection), amongst which are an extremely rare [1816-B specimen](#) and all of the 5 dates struck at the Minas mint including the ultra-rare, [one-year type 1818-M](#). We also feature a very interesting group of gold coins from South America's largest country including a nearly unique [4000 Reis of 1820 struck at the Bahia mint](#). Our group of Cuban coins, although just 50 lots or so, is nothing short of amazing with every 1915 Proof issue, including the [20 Pesos in PF 65 Cameo!](#) From Mexico, several pre-1750 8 Escudos are offered, in addition to over 150 lots.



From Europe, once again our offering of British coins is truly amazing with over 600 lots. Collectors of British coinage will enjoy reading Mr. Bruce Lorch's brilliant descriptions and will certainly be able to find one or several pieces to add to their collections. Special attention should be paid to one of the most beautiful [Henry VIII Sovereigns](#) we have seen. France and Germany are both well represented with 150 and 250 lots respectively. Russia, which continues to move back up in value, has 239 lots with high grade proof issues, Gem gold and platinum, and rare medals.

From the Asian continent, we present 250 lots from China, which, despite a recent correction in value, continues to be the central area of interest in Asian numismatics. India, which is growing steadily in strength, is represented by nearly 100 lots with some very interesting proof pieces in Gold and Silver.

Finally, from the grand continent of Africa, we have a beautiful group of South African coinage including Gem Ponds and better silver issues.

Long Beach will also feature our inaugural [World Paper Money Signature Auction](#), scheduled for September 6-10, and [Part 2 of the Shoshana Collection of Judean Coins](#), scheduled for September 5. Between these three auctions, there are over 7,500 lots from around the world for your bidding pleasure. Collectors of US coins need not worry — we have 4,500 lots of US material already in house for this [September 5-9 auction](#), with more still coming in.

Our Long Beach world coin and currency auctions are open for bidding now at [HA.com/Coins](#) and [HA.com/Currency](#).

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Stack's Bowers Galleries New York Grading Event with NGC

Posted on 8/14/2012

Special NGC grading event will be held at Stack's Bowers Galleries New York City offices September 12-14, 2012. Get FREE NGC grading when you consign to Stack's Bowers Baltimore or N.Y.I.N.C. auctions.

Bring your US, world and ancient coins to the Stack's Bowers Galleries New York City offices during this NGC grading event*:

- Coins will be pre-screened by our numismatic experts to determine grading worthiness.
- Raw coins and coins submitted for re-grading are welcome.
- US coins are all welcome. World and Ancient coins must be received by Stack's Bowers no later than September 5.
- We will submit qualifying coins to NGC for expedited grading – 24 to 48-hour turnaround.
- Mark Salzberg, and the professional NGC grading team, will personally grade your coins.
- Consign any of your newly graded coins and Stack's Bowers Galleries will pay the grading fees!

Estimated Value Per Individual Coin	Cost When Consigned	Cost When Returned
<\$20k	FREE	\$35
\$20k-\$50k	FREE	\$75
>\$50k	FREE	\$125

Grading Cost Chart

If you can't make it to New York during the grading event, bring your materials to Stack's Bowers galleries through September 12 at:

Stack's Bowers Galleries Irvine
1063 McGaw Avenue, Suite 100
Irvine, CA 92614
800.458.4646 | 949.253.0916

Stack's Bowers Galleries New York
110 W. 57th St., New York, NY
800.566.2580 | 212.582.2580

Stack's Bowers Galleries New Hampshire
866.811.1804 | 603.569.0823

Call Stack's Bowers Today to Schedule Your Grading Appointment

*World and Ancient coins must be received by Stack's Bowers no later than September 5. Minimum coin value \$1,000 to qualify for this grading event. Special issues and oversize holders may require an additional grading fee and additional grading time. In addition, to grading fees, the \$8 NGC handling fee per submission form will also be added to invoices for coins grading during this event that are not consigned. Coins will be accepted until the end of the event, but will be returned at a later date.

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2012 American Eagle One Ounce Platinum Proof Coin

Posted on 8/14/2012

The US Mint releases the American Eagle Platinum Bullion Coins.

[WASHINGTON] – American Eagle Platinum Proof Coins are available in limited mintages in the one ounce size. The obverse features Lady Liberty, symbolizing vigilance and faithfulness to duty.



The reverse design is emblematic of the principle “To Provide for the Common Defence,” the fourth of six principles of American democracy found in the Preamble to the United States Constitution. A vigilant minuteman from the Revolutionary War represents the protection and defense of the country during its early days. The minuteman carries a rifle and a book, which symbolizes the importance of knowledge in defending our Nation. It also features an American Eagle privy mark from an original “coin punch” identified at the United States Mint at Philadelphia. Inscriptions include UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, 1 oz., .9995 PLATINUM and \$100.

Each 2012 American Eagle One Ounce Platinum Proof Coin contains 99.95 percent pure platinum and is packaged in a custom-designed portfolio presentation case.

For more information, visit www.usmint.gov.

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